

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-50 are pending in the application. Claims 10-19, 37-47, and 50 are allowed. Claim 20 is amended. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

On 02/12/03, the Examiner participated in a telephonic interview with the Applicant's attorney Steve Mendelsohn and agent Yuri Gruzdkov. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of that interview.

In paragraph 3, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 21-36, and 48-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter, which was not described in the specification. More specifically, the Examiner stated that "Applicant has amended the claims by narrowing the scope by specifying that at least two message levels or distances must be different. There is no support for this in the original disclosure..." In response, the Applicant directs the Examiner's attention, for example, to page 8, line 18, where it is stated that "the range of values for each particular signal level may vary," and further to page 8, lines 11-12, where it is stated that "The distance between signal levels, identified as d1, d2 and d3, also varies." Similar recitations can be found, for example, on page 9, lines 10-18, and page 10, lines 4-7. The Applicant submits therefore that there is support in the specification for these claimed features and the rejections of claims under § 112, first paragraph, are improper and should be withdrawn.

In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Manohar. In response, the Applicant amended claim 20 to clarify that the sizes of the ranges are different (instead of "may differ") for at least two of the possible signal levels. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, in claim 1.

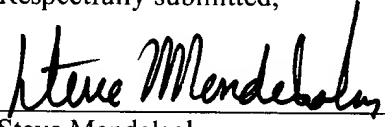
In view of the foregoing, the Applicant submits that the rejections of claims under §§ 112 and 102 have been overcome and all of the pending claims are allowable.

Attached hereto is a clean version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment, beginning with the caption "Clean version with changes incorporated."

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,


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